



OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER  
CIVIL AIR PATROL


UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY  
Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama 36112-6332

26 April 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL REGION AND WING COMMANDERS

SUBJECT: Safety Alert 00-01, Prop Strikes and Safety Down Day

1. An alarming trend has surfaced from our flight operations during the first quarter of this year. We have experienced a significant number of prop strikes. While prop strikes are the result, the basic problem stems from proficiency issues during landing and complacency issues during taxi. The increase in prop strikes is very evident when you compare three occurrences in 1999 with six occurrences in only the first quarter 2000.
2. To insure an appropriate attention level for this situation, I am directing that all units with a flying mission hold a Safety Down Day within the next 60 days to review and discuss the attached safety alert. During the Safety Down Day, no flying will take place, except for Rescue Coordination Center (RCC) directed and Counterdrug (CD) missions.
3. During each Safety Down Day meeting, units will explore whether or not the same conditions that caused these prop strikes exist within their unit flying program. Any pilots that cannot attend the meeting must review the safety alert and a discussion summary before their next flight. This review method should not be used in lieu of attendance. An attendance record will be kept for future reference should this safety issue occur within the unit. A summary of the discussion and associated documentation will also be maintained.
4. The health and well-being of Civil Air Patrol needs your dedication and support. A concentrated effort to eliminate these costly mishaps must be the goal of every member. Thankfully, no one has been injured but damage to our resources is costly. We must demonstrate our continual professionalism as the need for safety is ever present.

  
JAMES C. BOBICK  
Brigadier General, CAP  
Commander

Attachment:  
Safety Alert 00-01

cc:  
EX/EXA/DO/PA  
CAP-USAF/CC/CV/XO/SE  
CAP-USAF RGN/CCs  
LO/LNCOs